

McLean Misled Investigators In An Attempt To Help Fall He Admits At Hearing Today

**Second Story Correct—
Loaned \$100,000 But
Checks Were Returned
Became Investigator
For Secret Service In
Harding's Term**

**Senator Asked if He Could
Say That Money Was
Cash Transaction—De-
nies Knowing Sinclair.**

Washington, March 12.—Edward B. McLean told the oil committee today that he had given it misleading information about the celebrated \$100,000 loan because he trusted and desired to help his friend Albert Fall.

The publisher insisted that his second story about the loan, told to Senator Walsh in January at Palm Beach, Fla., was correct. He said he had loaned the former secretary \$100,000 in checks for a ranch enterprise, but that the checks were returned to him unneeded.

His previous assertion that the loan was made in cash, he said, was made at Fall's request. The latter appeared to be in trouble, he added, but had represented to him that it had nothing to do with oil.

He declared he never had any direct or indirect interest in either the Sinclair or Delaney companies and knew nothing about the leasing program except what he had seen in the newspapers.

Asked about the code messages exchanged between Washington and his cottage at Palm Beach, he was unable to decipher or explain many of them. He said William J. Burns had given one of his employees a department of justice code, but that he himself never had code messages.

Is Secret Agent
He became a secret agent of the justice department, he continued shortly after the beginning of the Harding administration.

The "principal" referred to in one of the telegrams sent by his employees, McLean said, referred to Attorney General Daugherty and did not refer to President Coolidge. He identified the attorney general as the author of the message assuring him not to worry because everything that could be done "will be done by us."

Led into a long discussion of his relations with Mr. Daugherty, he said the attorney general had lived in one of the McLean houses here for seven or eight months after coming to Washington. But he added that Daugherty "wouldn't do anything wrong for me," even if he had been asked.

In a prepared statement read to the committee the publisher made no reference to his previous conflicting testimony regarding the loan and when his attention was directed to that subject he said he had no further statement to make.

Cannot Find Stubs
He said under questioning that he had searched everywhere for the stubs of the checks he testified he had given Fall, but had been unable to find them.

"There aren't any, and never were," he testified. "I asked Senator Walsh, 'Why, yes there are, senator, to the best of my recollection, as I told you,' the witness replied."

McLean then said that at a conference he had with Fall at Atlantic City last December, Fall asked him if he would say that he had loaned him the \$100,000 in cash instead of in unused checks.

No Connection With Leases
"Fall assured me," he said, "that the loan had nothing to do with Sinclair and Teapot Dome."

McLean insisted that his credit was good at the time he gave Fall the checks and that he could have raised \$200,000 if necessary. He said Fall agreed to advance him before undertaking to cash the checks.

Senator Curtis "Principal"
When he was asked about the famous "principal" telegram, McLean said he did not know who the "principal" was unless it was Senator Curtis of Kansas.

"Mr. Bennett (Ira E. Bennett who sent the message) has testified it was Senator Curtis," said the witness. "Senator Curtis has testified to the opposite," and President Coolidge has testified it was not him.

"I didn't understand the president had made any statement," remarked Senator Walsh.

"The thing that struck me when I got that message," continued McLean, "was that the 'principal' referred to Harry Daugherty. I knew who you think it was, senator, but I have a different idea."

Senator Walsh said he had "a very definite idea who it was and was glad to have his mind disabused."

Some of McLean's testimony was the source of considerable amusement to the crowd attending the inquiry.

At one stage of the examination Senator Walsh asked about a reference in the McLean telegrams to some papers from McLean's safe deposit vault. The witness passed over a long document.

"This described the ranch prop-

WANT TO KEEP ARMY AT PRESENT STRENGTH

**Appropriation Bill Carries
Estimate for 137,000
Personnel**

Washington, March 12.—Maintenance for another year of the regular army at the present strength of 12,000 commissioned officers and 125,000 enlisted men is recommended in the army appropriation bill.

As reported today to the house the measure carries \$226,224,993 or \$16,224,268 less than last year's appropriation and \$2,632,773 less than the budget estimate.

Of the total \$27,600,000 would be available for river and harbor improvements during the next fiscal year. This amount, recommended by the budget is \$18,416,700 less than last year's appropriation. The funds would be allotted by the war department.

The bill carries an item of \$7,000,000 for continuing work on dam No. 2 at Muscle Shoals with an additional contract authorization of \$3,910,330 and provides \$10,000,000 for flood control on the Mississippi and \$500,000 for similar work on the Sacramento river.

**SUES FOR \$6,000 FOR GIRL'S
HURTS WHEN HORSE BOLTS**

**Paul Bagdasarian, For Daughter,
Brings Action Against James
Tormay and Son**

James Tormay, local ice dealer, and his son, Russell, have been sued for \$6,000 by Paul Bagdasarian and his daughter, Mary, a minor, acting through her father, for damages alleged to have been incurred as the result of the girl's being run over by a wagon owned by the defendants.

The alleged accident occurred on January 20, on North street, when a horse, owned by Tormay and driven by his son, became unmanageable and ran onto the sidewalk, running over the girl who was standing in front of her home.

Bagdasarian sues for \$1,000 as a result of medical bills that have been incurred as a result of the accident, and asks \$5,000 for his daughter who received a broken arm. The arm was broken near the shoulder and physicians think that the girl will suffer a permanent effect from it as the arm will be shorter when the bone heals.

Attorney David L. Nair represents the plaintiffs. Papers were served on the defendants by Constable Fred Winkler and are returnable in superior court on the second Tuesday of April.

CLARK WILL PROVIDES BEQUEST TO EMPLOYEE

**Gift of \$1,000 Made to Housekeeper—
Hospital, Children's Home and
Church Residual Legatees**

The will of the late Alfred H. Clark was filed in probate court this afternoon, and by its terms, Julia Hall Ripley, for many years housekeeper for the testator, will receive a cash gift of \$1,000. After making bequests of \$175 for the care of his plot in Fairview cemetery, \$150 for the care of the plot in which the remains of his father have been interred, and \$100 to Miss Ethel Clark, a cousin, or \$100 to Miss Mabel, the testator provides that the residue be divided into three equal parts, one to be given to the New Britain general hospital, one to the Children's Home and one to the South Congregational church.

WOMAN IS ARRESTED

**Chicago Divorcee Held When Com-
panion's Body, With Bullet in Head,
Is Found in Her Motor Car.**

Chicago, March 12.—Mrs. Belle Brown Overbeck Gaertner, former cabaret singer and divorced by William Gaertner, wealthy instrument manufacturer, was arrested early today after policemen found the body of Robert Law, 32, automobile salesman abandoned in her motor car on a street near her home. Law had been shot through the head. A discharged automatic pistol of which the police said Mrs. Gaertner admitted ownership, was found on the floor of the automobile along with a bottle of gin.

Mrs. Gaertner hysterically was pacing the floor when the police arrived at her home they said, and her statements at first were incoherent. She was quoted as saying that Law and she had been driving when upon nearing her home, she heard a shot and Law dropped over the steering wheel. She said she had given her pistol to Law so that he might protect them.

The police said none of the windows of the closed car had been broken by a bullet.

Mrs. Gaertner's suit for divorce nearly four years ago, received much publicity. Both testified they had employed detectives in the guise of servants until their home was nearly filled.

SNOW DRIFTS 9 FT. DEEP IN DANIELSON

**Storm Plays Havoc With Roads
and Wires About State**

10,000 PHONES DISABLED

**Overnight Storm Nearest Approach to
March Blizzard of 1888—Country
Towns Practically Isolated Today—
Heavy Snowfall in Hills.**

Danielson, Conn., March 12.—The worst demoralization of wire service in years resulted from last night's wind and snow storm. About one foot of snow fell on the level and in some places on the Providence-Danielson state highway drifts of nine feet depth have blocked traffic. State highway department plows and gangs were busy this forenoon digging out the roads.

Northeastern Connecticut was practically without telephone service this forenoon and electric light and high tension power lines are reported down in all directions. Hundreds of poles were felled by the wind and weight of the heavy, damp snow on the wires. In many places poles and wires are in a tangled mass. It was estimated that two weeks would be required to restore service.

Danielson was practically without electric light and telephone service since early last evening. Trolleys are running intermittently. Both the Connecticut Power Co. and Eastern Connecticut Power Co. lines, which supply electric light and power in this section were affected. Many mills were without power this forenoon.

Considerable Damage
Washington, March 12.—Falling temperatures in the south Atlantic states today added to the difficulty of restoring wire communication and train schedules in the wake of the blizzard which wrought considerable damage in that region during its northward sweep.

The wet snow and high wind put many telephones out of commission and caused damage in Washington and vicinity and Joseph O'Brien, of East Riverdale, Md., is reported to have died as a result of a fall through the snow-laden roof of a chicken house. Trains arriving from the south continued two to six hours late and for direct telephone or telegraph lines to the south were in operation this morning. Many lines to the east and west also remained down but efforts to restore them were being pressed.

Storm Will Abate
Boston, March 12.—The storm which swept New England yesterday and last night continued today but the weather bureau predicted that it would probably abate during the day. The wind velocity reached its highest at 42 miles an hour and four

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TWO DIE IN FIRE

**Injured When Flames Sweep East
Side Tenement.**

New York, March 12.—The death of a man and his wife, and the serious injury of their two children in a fire which swept the east side tenement last night were charged by the police today to an unidentified man who is believed to have fired the fifth floor flat for revenge.

Mrs. Anna Klusback, 28 years old and her husband Stephen, 37, were killed, and their two boys, 8 and 5 years old, were badly burned. Mrs. Klusback died of burns and suffocation. Her husband died of injuries received when he jumped from a fifth floor window when all other exits had been cut off by flames. The police are looking for a man who several days ago muttered threats against the life of Klusback, accusing him of having "ruined his future."

A tin receptacle which had contained oil was found in the hallway outside the entrance to the Klusback flat.

\$50,000 ROBBERY IN N. Y.

**Seven Armed Bandits Bind Four
Clerks and Escape in Automobile
With Jewelry.**

New York, March 12.—Seven armed bandits today entered the offices of the Security Loan Co., bound with telephone wire four clerks, one of them a woman, looted an open safe and escaped in a motor car with jewelry valued at more than \$50,000.

Irishman Says Neighbor, 100, Threatened Assault

London, March 12.—A dangerous age in the case of Owen Connolly of Luskerry county, Wexford, seems to be an even hundred years. Connolly, hale and vigorous, walked 9 miles to the courthouse recently to answer a charge of having "used threatening language and abuse" one Patrick Brady.

"He jumped over a fence and threatened me with a blackthorn," declared Brady.

The magistrate dismissed the case.

Tetanus Kills Cobbler; Scratched With Awl

New Haven, March 12.—A cobbler died of tetanus today according to a board of health report. He scratched his hand with an awl last fall, infection followed and a few days ago he developed lockjaw.

DAUGHERTY PROBE GETS UNDER WAY

**Session of Special Senate Com-
mittee Called for 4 o'Clock**

**Part Played in Attorney General's At-
tacks Will Be Inquired Into—Other
Summonses**

Washington, March 12.—The Daugherty investigation will be opened this afternoon at 4 o'clock under a decision reached today by the special senate committee. Chairman Brookhart announced that testimony of witnesses would be begun at that hour.

The part played in department of justice affairs by Jesse Smith, friend of Attorney Gen. Daugherty, who committed suicide a year ago in Mr. Daugherty's apartment here, will be inquired into in detail in the investigation.

Senator Wheeler, democrat, Montana, preparing the case for the committee announced that all telegrams sent to and received by Smith at Columbus, O., after the election of President Harding had been subpoenaed.

The senator said that the reported influence of oil interest in the Mexican revolution, planned for inquiry at the opening session, probably would give way to some other undisclosed subject.

Another subpoena issued was for Will R. A. Hays, manager of the United States, Columbus, Ohio, to appear immediately and bring certain documents. A firm of that name is a stock brokerage house which formerly had a Washington branch office.

A forecast that the inquiry would go into the relations between the attorney general and Smith was given by Senator Wheeler in an address several weeks ago in the senate in which he referred to the activities of Smith, who occupied an office adjoining Mr. Daugherty's in the department of justice.

"Everybody knows," he said, then, "that Jesse Smith who was brought from the state of Ohio and had an office in the department of justice and who was not on the payroll was accepting money in connection with various charges that arose in the department of justice."

The plans to delve into this angle were disclosed by Senator Wheeler upon his return today from a secret brook-out of town.

He conferred today with Chairman Brookhart and committee assistants in the preparation of additional subpoenas.

FEARS HOUSE BILL WILL CAUSE DEFICIT

**Secretary Mellon Declares
It Will Not Produce
Needed Revenue**

Washington, March 12.—Revision of the revenue bill passed by the house must be made to prevent a treasury deficit, Secretary Mellon today told the senate finance committee.

The secretary condemned the Longworth compromise on the income tax rate schedule and criticized house amendments which increased estate taxes, created a gift tax and opened tax returns to inspection by congressional committees.

Some of the modification of the measure would be necessary also in the increase ordered by the house in the excise and miscellaneous taxes.

The house bill would mean a loss in revenue of about \$450,000,000 Mr. Mellon said against an estimated surplus of \$255,000,000 for the fiscal year 1925 under existing law.

Mr. Mellon's views were sought by the committee preparatory to the consideration of the rate schedule in the tax bill. The secretary and undersecretary Winston were asked to further amplify their statements before the committee later this week.

While Secretary Mellon was urging a broadside today at the revenue bill as passed by the house, senate democrats turned their big guns on the president's message urging a joint resolution to make tax reduction apply to incomes payable next Saturday.

Meanwhile, with only three days left for action such as the president recommended the leaders showed little disposition to start on such a course.

Mr. Mellon told the senate finance committee that the bill as it now stands must be changed to prevent a treasury deficit, and he gave the committee a long list of modifications which would be necessary in the view of treasury experts.

Senate Orders Probe Of Internal Revenue Bureau

Washington, March 12.—Inquiry by a select committee of five into the administration of the bureau of internal revenue was ordered today by the senate.

THE WEATHER

Hartford, Mar. 12.—Forecast for New Britain and vicinity: Partly cloudy tonight; Thursday fair and colder.

DR. PULLEN VOLUNTEERS TO ISOLATE HIMSELF IN SANITARIUM TO ATTEND TO SMALLPOX PATIENTS WHO GO THERE

**Hospital Is Barred
To Visitors Except
Patients' Families**

Dr. T. E. Pullen, superintendent of the New Britain General Hospital, announced today that until scarlet fever and smallpox subside the hospital will be closed to visitors, with the exception of immediate relatives of the patients. This step is taken by Dr. Pullen as a precautionary measure against the spread of scarlet fever and smallpox to the institution.



DR. RICHARD W. PULLEN

OTHER WITNESSES BEFORE OIL PROBE

**White House Doorkeeper
and Secret Service Man
Appear Today**

Washington, March 12.—H. E. McKenna chief door-keeper at the White House executive office was called before the oil committee and questioned about a telegram he sent to Edward B. McLean in Florida informing him of Secretary Stemp's departure for the south.

He said McLean had asked him to send such a notification and that Stemp had said it would be all right to do so.

E. W. Stalling, of the White House secret service detail who also had communicated with the publisher by telegraph followed McKenna on the stand.

Stalling testified that his message related to the employment of E. P. Wilkins of Hopkinton, N.Y., in the McLean household. Wilkins, Stalling said, was his lifelong friend.

The committee then called E. W. Smithers, chief of communications at the White House who operated the Washington end of McLean's private wire to Palm Beach.

HOUSE ORDERS PROBE OF SUSPECTED CONGRESSMEN

**Passes by Viva Voice Vote, Garrett's
Resolution Calling For Thorough Investigation**

Washington, March 12.—Congressional investigation of criminal charges said to have been developed before a Chicago grand jury against two representatives was ordered today by the house.

By a viva voce vote a resolution offered by Representative Garrett, the democratic leader, to create a special house committee to conduct an inquiry was adopted.

Difference in Compensation Planned for Veterans

Washington, March 12.—The paid up life insurance policy which will be given veterans under terms of the new soldier bonus will be valued at \$1 a day for home service and \$1.25 a day for overseas service, it was decided today by the subcommittee of the house ways and means committee framing the new measure.

An additional 27 per cent of the total amount of the adjusted service credit would be allowed, thus making the basis on which compensation would be figured. The same as provided in the bill passed last session and vetoed by President Harding.

Farmer Leaves His Whole Estate to Federal Govt.

Lancaster, O., March 12.—A farmer who died recently, that he would pay his "debt of gratitude" to the government for liberty and happiness under the stars and stripes will be fulfilled. Jordan's will provides that his property be converted into cash and all his burial expenses be turned over to the treasurer of the United States. The estate is valued at \$10,000.

Head of Health Department, Faced By Problem, Offers To Solve It At Personal Sacrifice Until Epidemic Is Stamped Out—Physician Now Handling Cases Balks.

**"Proceed At Once and Spare No Expense," Mayor Paonessa Orders—Health Board Votes For Compulsory
Vaccination of All School Children—More Police
Needed to Guard Quarantined Homes.**

Dr. Richard W. Pullen, superintendent of the department of health, in a conference this morning with Mayor A. M. Paonessa volunteered to go into the New Britain sanitarium as soon as it is converted into an isolation hospital and remain in quarantine until the last smallpox patient is discharged from the institution.

If the health superintendent's proposal is adopted, a direct wire will be installed from the sanitarium to the office of the health department, and Dr. Pullen will assist a temporary health board.

Paonessa is a physician's training in the care of communicable diseases is such that there is no danger that the disease will be carried from patients to the general public, but he recognizes that public opinion will not sanction the intermingling of doctors handling smallpox cases and persons who are not victims of the disease. Because of this condition, he explained, it will be necessary to get a physician who will consent to be quarantined in the sanitarium and remain until the epidemic has subsided.

Attending Physician Declines.
By arrangement with the health department, all smallpox cases in the city at present are being taken care of by one physician, and during the epidemic he has not been engaged in the general practice of medicine. This arrangement was made because of the public opinion that centers into the situation. The health department has been in conference with the physician and made him a proposal to go into quarantine with the patients when they are grouped at the sanitarium, but he has declined the proposition. Dr. Pullen realizes that it will be exceedingly difficult to secure a physician to consent to this arrangement, and he felt it his duty to offer the personal sacrifice so that all may be done to curb the spread of the malady. It is explained, Dr. Pullen is prepared to carry out his agreement at once, but the consent of the health board will first be sought.

Evacuating Sanitarium.
Work is to be started this afternoon in transporting to the city of patients at the sanitarium to the Newington sanitarium. Of the remaining three, one will be housed in the town home, a second will be sent to a private institution and the third will probably be discharged. Doctors from the Newington sanitarium examined the patients yesterday and they are now ready for admittance as soon as transportation is provided.

Spare No Expense, Mayor Orders.
"Proceed at once and spare no expense for this is no time to talk down and cents," Mayor Paonessa advised Dr. Pullen at the close of the conference today.

The mayor complimented the board and the health superintendent this morning on the manner in which the smallpox situation and quarantines have been handled since the outbreak. Dr. Pullen has been in conference daily with Dr. Henry T. Bray, former superintendent and now chairman of the board, and with officials of the state department of health at Hartford, and his steps have met the approval of both.

Dr. Pullen is preparing this afternoon for the printing of circulars to be sent to the parents of all school children setting forth in detail the law on vaccination. One clause of the law which is not generally understood provides that children having certificates from a physician setting forth that they are not in physical condition to be vaccinated will not be required to submit to the treatment. All others, excepting those who have been successfully vaccinated within five years, will be required to do so or remain away from school.

The department is confronted with a problem of bringing its message before the parents who do not read English. Just how this problem will be met, the department has not yet decided.

Free Vaccination Clinic.
The health department will confer today with the city hall commission and will request the use of a room on the third floor, which has been vacated by the New Britain club, for the establishment of a free vaccination clinic. Mayor Paonessa does not feel that parents should be required to bear the burden of this treatment and Dr. Pullen and the health board concur in this belief. An appeal will be made to local physicians to give part of their time to vaccinations, and if it is found necessary, the state

department of health will be requested to furnish a doctor during the emergency period.

It would not be possible to handle the large crowds that must be treated in the health department offices. The tuberculosis relief rooms in Booth's block had been considered, but it was felt that since the department of health is located in city hall, the majority of people would naturally come to that building.

May Use House For Patients.
The question of how to bring smallpox patients to the hospital is also being considered. The hospital ambulance or the police patrol cannot be used unless it is to be kept for that use only, otherwise the public might protest, the health department fears. Either car could be safely used for both purposes if properly fumigated after each trip to the New Britain sanitarium, but because of the likelihood of protest, this plan will not be adopted. It is believed that some arrangement can be reached with an understanding of one of the several combination hearses and ambulances now in the city until the epidemic has passed.

Homes Without Police Guard
Dr. Pullen conferred this morning with Chief W. C. Hart of the police department relative to policing at homes under the quarantine. Two shifts are now employed and a check is used to shelter the policeman on duty. There are two homes policed, four policemen being on duty. If this idea is to be carried out, 14 more policemen will be needed, as there are now seven homes without a police guard. Chief Hart said all available men are on duty. The regular force is patrolling beats while some of the supernumeraries who do no other kind of work are filling in on the off days for regular or when regular patrolmen have sick leave. All others are being used in the quarantine work.

If it becomes imperative to have police guard at all houses, the chief will call supernumeraries out of factories and station them at this work. Dr. Pullen does not approve of this method of quarantine enforcement. He explains that a guard is placed at but of the several doors of the building and if the tenants really wanted to get out they would experience little difficulty.

Policeman Not Affected
Supernumerary Policeman William McMurray who had been on quarantine detail was taken sick last night and the report spread about the city that he had contracted smallpox. The threat of this report was denied at the office of the health department this morning. The policeman, suffering from a severe cold, it was explained.

Dr. Pullen reported this noon that there are no new cases in the city today, nor are there any patients quarantined for observation as has been the procedure wherever suspicious cases have arisen in the past week.

At present 21 patients are under quarantine. Of this number, six are to be released in a day or two and a seventh case will probably be released before the end of the week, Dr. Pullen said this morning.

Hart Can Furnish Police
Chief William C. Hart of the police department was in communication with the board of health authorities this morning and he told them that if it was absolutely necessary, the department could furnish enough police officers to put a strict quarantine in force at all the houses in which there are cases of smallpox. The health department will notify him after the meeting this afternoon if they will require the assistance of the police.

Alarm Felt in Meriden
The smallpox outbreak in New Britain has alarmed the health officials in the city of Meriden, and Dr. Joseph A. Fowler, acting health officer in that city has advised a general vaccination there.

Dr. Fowler said there were so few people vaccinated in Meriden, only about five per cent of the school children, that if smallpox spread to that city, "as well as might," he commented, "it would go through this city like wildfire."

"There are not more than about six per cent of the school children vaccinated here and if the disease ever gets a start here there will be serious consequences," he said. "The people of Meriden do not seem to realize the importance of vaccination. Many believe it is useless or even harmful. They are sadly mistaken, as they will find out if the disease should spread the eight or nine miles between here and New Britain."

"The records of the health department which keeps close watch on all such cases show that a very large percentage of those who develop the disease never were vaccinated. Those who have been vaccinated seldom contract the disease."

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